

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

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- **Instruction 1:** Please replace the TITLE of the specification with the following:

**~~SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR POSITIONING A PILE CAP UNDERNEATH AN~~
~~EXISTING ELEVATED BRIDGE ASSEMBLY~~**

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- **Instruction 2:** Please insert the following SECTION at the beginning of the specification:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 10/155,608, filed May 24, 2002,
which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

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- **Instruction 3:** Please replace paragraph [0006] of the specification with the following:

[0006] A system and method for positioning a pile cap underneath an existing bridge assembly is disclosed. A portion of the rail assembly is removed to define an access area. At least three new piles are installed through the access area. The piles include a center pile and two opposing outer piles. Each pile has a proximal end and a distal end. The distal ends of each pile are driven into a support surface so that each pile generally extends from the support surface to the existing elevated rail assembly. The proximal ends of each pile are removed to define a gap between the piles and the existing elevated rail assembly. A new pile cap is then inserted into the gap. To insert the pile cap, a lifting device and a crane are used. The lifting device is used to incrementally insert the pile cap into the gap. The pile cap is supported on the piles and is used to support a new span for supporting the rail assembly.

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- **Instruction 4:** Please replace paragraph [0012] of the specification with the following:

[0012] The ballast boards 122 are supported on a plurality of outboard non-load-bearing stringers 124 and ~~load-bearing~~ a plurality of load-bearing stringers 126a-126e. The non-load-bearing stringers 124 are located underneath and at the ends of the ballast boards 122. The plurality of load-bearing stringers 126a-126e is supported on the wooden pile caps 106. The stringers on bridge assemblies can have a number of configurations. In one configuration, for example, the load-bearing stringers 126a-126e extend between adjacent, wooden caps 106 and are spaced approximately 18 inches apart in relation to each other with 126a being an inboard stringer and 126e being an outboard stringer.

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- **Instruction 5:** Please replace paragraph [0046] of the specification with the following:

[0046] FIG. 20 illustrates an embodiment of a lifting device according the present invention. The lifting device includes an intermediate member or support bar 148 and a plurality of interconnecting members or lifting rods 150-160. The support bar 148 is illustrated in cross-section to show an internal hollow defined therein. The support bar 148 defines a plurality of first or top apertures 161a from a top of the bar to the internal hollow. The support bar 148 defines a plurality of equally located, second or bottom apertures 161b from a bottom of the ~~beam~~ bar to the internal hollow. The bottom apertures 161b have a greater dimension than the top apertures 161a.

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- **Instruction 6:** Please replace paragraph [0050] of the specification with the following:

[0050] The plurality of other lifting rods 150, 154, 156, 158, and 160 are also movably disposed in the apertures 161a-b of the support beam between extended and retracted positions. These rods have a lower end capable of releasably connecting to the cap at one of the lifting points when in the extended position. These rods also have an upper end capable of engaging outside surface of the support beam adjacent the upper aperture 161a when in the extended position, such as rods 150 and 154 are shown in FIG. 20.